REMARKS

Claim 1 is currently amended. Claims 1 through 9 remain pending in the Application.

Rejections under 35 USC 102(b)

Claims 1-3, 8 and 9

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-3, 8 and 9 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Radloff (5575546). Applicant has reviewed the Radloff reference and respectfully asserts that Radloff does not anticipate the claimed embodiments of the present invention for the following rationale.

Applicant respectfully states that Independent Claim 1 recites the features of "a handle element integral with said filler panel body, said handle element fixedly coupled with said filler panel body, said handle element providing a grasping surface on the face of said filler panel body; said handle element for utilization during coupling and decoupling of said filler panel body with respect to a chassis, said handle element providing no retention characteristics between said chassis and said filler panel body." (emphasis added) As described in the Detailed Description (such as paragraphs 0048-0055) and clearly shown in the Figures (e.g., Figures 9A-11), the handle element provides a grasping surface for removal or insertion of the filler panel body with respect to a chassis but clearly does not aid in the retention characteristics between the chassis and the filler panel body. That is, the handle element is a positive grasping surface for a user during insertion and removal of the filler panel body from the chassis.

100110261-1 Examiner: Lee, J.

Serial No.: 10/077,724 Group Art Unit: 2831 Applicant has reviewed Radloff and respectfully disagrees with the Examiners assertion that Radloff discloses a handle element. The Examiner has stated that the mount 14b of Radloff is analogous to the handle element of the present invention. However, Applicant understands the mount of Radloff to position the filler panel relative to the chassis. Moreover, Applicant understands the mount of Radloff to provide various retention mechanisms, e.g., slots, tabs, notches and the like, to provide retention of the filler panel with respect to a chassis.

In other words, Applicant understands Radloff to anticipate the utilization of the mount 14b to act as a "mount" between the filler panel and the chassis. That is, Applicant understands the mount of Radloff to provide retention capabilities to the filler panel, not to provide a handle to be used for grasping during removal. Thus, Applicant respectfully states that Radloff does not anticipate the feature of a handle element.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Radloff does not anticipate the present claimed invention as recited in Claim 1, and as such, Claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant also respectfully submits that Radloff does not anticipate the present claimed invention as recited in Claims 2-3, 8 and 9 which are dependent on an allowable Independent Claim 1, and that Claims 2-3, 8 and 9 recite further features of the present claimed invention.

100110261-1 Examiner: Lee, J.

Serial No.: 10/077,724 Group Art Unit: 2831 Therefore, Applicant respectfully states that Claims 2-3, 8 and 9 are allowable as pending from an allowable base Claim.

Rejections under 35 USC 103(a)

Claims 4-7

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 4-7 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Radloff. Applicant has reviewed the Radloff reference and respectfully asserts that the claimed embodiments of the present invention are not obvious in view of Radloff for the following rationale.

Applicant respectfully states that Claims 4-7 are dependent from an allowable Independent Claim 1. Therefore, Claims 4-7 which depend from an allowable Independent Claim 1 are also in condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base Claim and reciting further features of the present claimed invention.

100110261-1 Examiner: Lee, J.

Serial No.: 10/077,724 Group Art Unit: 2831

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of Claims 1 through 9.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 4/26/05

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